FTA NEWS

TOBACCO, AGRICULTURAL AND ALLIED WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA

SEPTEMBER, 1950 — Price Five Cents

FTA BOARD OK'S UNITY PLAN; CONVENTION CALLED FOR OCT. 4

The e... Me... Bow... of victory—which they won the next day—these members of FTA Local 56, Trenton, N. J., smile for the camera at election eve rally. The next day they shut out the AFL raiders at their plant of American Tobacco Co. by a score of 265 for FTA, 185 for AFL, 39 for no union. CIO had been spending money on a projected raid, but did not dare even appear on the ballot for fear of the licking it would take.

Learning (L to R) FTA 54 delegates from Locals 83, 84, 347 and 35 attended the 1950 FTA Leadership Training School in Pennsylvania in July. FTA officers John Tisa, Robert Lathan (second from left in back row and third from left in front row), Armando Ramirez and Donald Henderson spoke on FTA and other labor issues at the school. Instructor in labor history (and tallest man) Herman Schendel, well known union educator, standing in background.

(See Page 3)

By unanimous vote, the International Executive Board approved August 28 the proposed plan calling for unity of FTA, the Distributive Workers Union and the United Office and Professional Workers of America.

The proposed plan (full text on page 3), is now being submitted to all FTA locals for action and will be brought to the special FTA convention called for October 4 and 5 in New York City.

Issuing the call to the special FTA convention, FTA National Officers said:

"The Special Convention will act on the vote of the International Executive Board, which by unanimous vote August 28 approved and adopted the draft agreement on merger of the three international unions, a copy of which has been sent to all FTA locals.

"Following the special convention of the international union, the delegates to this convention will adjourn the FTA special convention and proceed to meet with the other two international unions in the founding convention of the new international union."

The vote of the FTA Executive Board, based on a unanimous resolution of the 7th FTA Convention in February, 1949, instructed the national officers of FTA to proceed with calling the special convention and to take all steps to carry out the proposed merger with the approval of the locals and of the delegates to the special convention.

Under the proposed agreement, the new international will retain the identity of FTA and the other two unions involved. FTA locals will retain their names if they choose, will continue to use the initials FTA and will be represented in the new union by officers of their own choice at the founding convention.

The new organization will have an initial dues paying membership of better than 80,000, and will combine the strength, militancy and democracy of three well tested groups of workers who have been through the mill of tough organizing battles with employers and equally tough—and successful—battles to preserve their union against raids and disruption from officials of the CIO and the AFL.

Vote for FTA Pays Off

With a five to three vote for FTA against a CIO raid, topped by a four to one vote for an FTA union shop, workers at the Van Camp Seafood Co. in San Diego, Calif., have moved on to sign the best contract in the fish cannery industry.

The contract, negotiated by FTA Local 84, provides protection against speedup and job loss through new machinery, calls for strict union seniority in promotions to supervisory positions, on layoffs and new hiring.

Minimum hiring rate was set at $1.00 an hour, while piece rates remain the highest in the fish canning industry. In the event that other fish canneries in the area increase rates, Local 84 will still maintain its advantageous differential which is now around 20 percent above neighboring canneries.

On speedup, Local 84's summary of the contract reports: "It is agreed that there shall be no speedup of any sort instigated by the company and in the event present speed of operations appears too strenuous, the company agrees to meet immediately to work out proper corrective measures."

The contract also provides for "no discrimination against any employe because of race, creed, sex, religious or political beliefs."

WRECKING U.S. LIBERTIES

The House passed, late Aug. 29, by a vote of 354 to 28 a thought control bill which would completely change the [illegible]e in the U.S.

The half-hearted move by some administration Congressmen led by Emanuel Celler (NY), to substitute a less drastic measure failed by a teller vote of 153 to 64. No recognized administration floor leader fought for the substitute and debate on it was limited to five minutes.

The measure drawn up by the House committee on un-American activities on the Mundt police state bill as a pattern, is even more broad in its abolition of civil rights than the original Mundt bill.

The measure went to the Senate where consideration of the McCarran omnibus subversive control bill was scheduled for later in the week or early the following week. The McCarran bill contains many of the police state measures voted by the House and several other provisions affecting aliens and diplomats.

Passage of the measure was accompanied by shouts of "police state" and "thought control." But there were also cries: "It doesn't go far enough."

Those who dared to buck the anti-red hysteria engendered by the Korean situation included: American Labor Party, Rep. Vito Marcantonio (NY); Republicans, Usher L. Burdick (N.D.) and Jacob K. Javits (NY); and Democrats, Wayne N. Aspinall (Colo.), Andrew J. Biemiller (Wisc.), John A. Batnik (Minn.), Reva Beck Beson (Utah), John A. Carroll (Colo.), Celler (NY), Earl Chudoff (Pa.), Isadore Dollinger (NY), Helen Gahagan Douglas (Cal.), Herman D. Eberharter (Pa.), Franck R. Havenner (Cal.), Walter B. Huber (O.), Cecil R. King (Cal.), Abraham J. Multer (NY), George D. O'Brien (NY), Barratt O'Hara (Ill.) and John F. Shelley (Cal.).

The roll call on passage was even more overwhelming than the vote two years ago on passage of the Mundt bill which was 319 to 58.

Passage came after an eloquent plea that the bill be sent back to committee voiced by Burdick.

Vote by Fear

"There are a great many members who will vote for this bill who know that they should not," he declared, "because they do not dare to vote against it. They think the people want them to strangle the Communists and they think this bill will do it.

"You cannot legislate over the mind of man," he continued and quoted Thomas Jefferson to prove it.

"You cannot stop men from thinking by passing any law.

Here are some of the things the bill will do if it becomes law:

- **Require registration of all communists and "communist front" groups with the U.S. Attorney-General.**
- **Classify almost any progressive or liberal organization as a "communist front" group.**
- **Set up a government board of five appointed by President Truman to decide what groups are "communist fronts."**
- **Ban members of "communist" groups from employment in public office or in any plant which has a government contract for defense work. (This means almost any plant in total mobilization).**
- Ban members from obtaining passports.
- Require such organizations to identify all mail on the outside as distributed by a "communist" orgaization and identfy all radio programs in the same way.
- Make it illegal for any government employe or defense plant worker to contribute funds or services to any organization defined as a "communist" organization.
- **Provides fines of $10,000 or jail sentences of five years or both for each violation of the law.**

CIO Members Hit Raids

The CIO Gas, Coke and Chemical raid on FTA Local 19 in the Buckeye plants in Memphis was condemned by unanimous vote of the National Maritime Union CIO membership meeting in the port of Memphis. Letters condemning the raid and calling for labor unity were sent to all CIO affiliates in the area.

Gas, Coke, and Chemical is a weak, split and discredited organization now being used by CIO Area Director W. A. Copeland, to continue the raiding on Local 19 tried earlier by the Packing House Workers CIO.

In October, 1949, half of its Southern locals withdrew from Gas, Coke in an internal right-wing fight over funds. On May 23rd, 1950, workers at Quaker Chemical in Memphis voted 64 to 48 in an NLRB Election to leave Gas, Coke after five years of dissatisfaction in this union. Heyden Chemical Workers had to contribute $7.50 per member to hire a lawyer to negotiate a contract.

This kind of union under this kind of leadership has the nerve to ask Buckeye Workers to destroy Local 19 FTA under whose banner an additional yearly income per worker of $346.40 has been won in wages alone, since 1946.

To date, the results of the raid have been disappointing to CIO officials; however, they have not given up their race-baiting and red-baiting disruption which is the only program they have offered the workers.

The Natl. Maritime Union letter against raiding said in part:

"It is because of this lesson on unity that we in our meeting, unanimously condemn the splitting, raiding tactics of some top CIO officials in Memphis as ruinous to the future welfare of the CIO and all labor. We specifically condemn the present raid of the Gas, Coke and Chemical Workers Union-CIO, now under the administration of W. A. Copeland, against the Buckeye Workers in Local 19, FTA.

"We, the members of NMU in Memphis call for a halt to this suicidal policy and urge that all CIO members act in the interest of building unity, decency and respect for honest unionism."

HERESY FROM THE RIGHT

The last few weeks have seen a strange outburst of heretical thinking by some right-wing labor leaders prominent in the CIO. They've started to criticize the Marshall Plan and other aspects of U. S. government foreign policy.

Take Vice-President William Belanger of the CIO Textile Workers—right-wing of the right-wing among CIO unions—just back from an official inspection trip in France. Says Vice-President Belanger "The French worker at the time of the liberation was filled with many hopes. Now there is disillusion."

The disillusion comes, Belanger says, from the failure of the Marshall Plan to lift living standards, the terrific hardships the French workers face, and the increasing reactionary attitude of French bosses.

John Livingston, Vice-President of the CIO Auto Workers, was even more critical. "Unless something is done soon to improve living conditions in France, Italy and western Germany, we may soon find that all the aid given to date that has been used to rebuild industries may be in the hands of, or under the control of, a dictator. . . ."

Livingston too blamed the conditions of European workers on the failure of the Marshall Plan.

Stanley Earl, another right-wing CIO official, returned from Korea just after the war broke out to report that unions were suppressed, union members tortured and shot, and democracy non-existent in South Korea—where U. S. taxpayers' money has been poured out in "aid."

These criticisms are much harsher than anything FTA ever said about the workings of the Marshall Plan—but it was precisely FTA's criticisms that merited expulsion from CIO, in the eyes of CIO leaders. Oddly enough the Secretary-Treasurer of Livingstone's union, Emil Mazey of the UAW-CIO, was on the CIO trial committee that rigged FTA's expulsion.

Belanger, Livingston et al might better watch out. It's fast becoming a serious crime to dare to criticize the "bi-partisan" foreign policy of the State Department and the Truman Administration.

FTA 22 Blasts Taft-Hartley Ruling in R. J. Reynolds

The Taft-Hartley Labor Relations Board counted 133 votes of supervisors and foremen which had been challenged by observers for FTA Local 22, and thus aided the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company in its conspiracy to steal the majority vote which its workers had rolled up in an NLRB election last March.

On March 23rd, these tobacco workers voted 4428 to 4381 to be represented by the progressive FTA in Winton-Salem, N. C.

This election was preceded by an historic victory for all progressive force when the FTA union decisively trounced CIO and AFL raiders in an election on March 8, which attracted national attention.

One hundred twenty-three of the 133 bosses' votes were cast for "no union," while 10 were cast for FTA, thus giving the company a bare 66 votes "majority."

The Board's latest action came after many workers went to the local NLRB office in spite of the threats and intimidation from the company and swore that their foremen were among those whose votes had been challenged. The Taft-Hartleyites took the word of the Reynolds Company against that of the workers in every single instance.

This was just the latest of such biased actions on the part of the Board. At the beginning, they stacked the election in the company's favor by reversing a six-year-old decision of the Wagner Act to exclude 1,000 seasonal workers, Negro women, from voting along with the other 9,000. This arbitrary splitting up of the bargaining unit weakened the union vote and left the most exploited of the Reynolds workers unable to vote with their fellow workers for union protection.

The first election defeated the efforts of the CIO Transport Service Union to win support of the Negro workers and the campaign of the AFL union to organize the whites on a white supremacy basis.

Local 22's program was keynoted with a call for Negro-white unity as the only possible way to defeat the powerful Reynolds Tobacco Company.

Since 1943, Local 22 has won over fifty million dollars in gains for workers in Reynolds. This is the largest single plant in the South and one of the largest tobacco plants in the country. Reynolds had employed upwards of 10,000 workers, approximately half-and-half Negro and white.

During the NLRB delay, the Reynolds Company hastened to lay off hundreds of Negro women stemmery workers, who had been the backbone of the union. So the workers in Reynolds know that the count of the challenged ballots was only the end of one fight and the beginning of another.

Even though in this bitter campaign, many workers and leaders have lost their jobs and even their lives, including the late Negro woman unionist, Mrs. Moranda Smith, the workers are prepared to continue their fight for better living conditions and to make every necessary sacrifice to guarantee that the workers will win their rights.

More FTA Contracts

Despite raids, redbaiting and reaction, FTA continues to pile up the contracts. Here are some reported in past few days.

32 Wins 5 to 17½c

Increases from five cents to 17½ cents won by FTA Local 32 at Frazier Packing Corp., one of the largest catsup packers in U. S. Plant is under FTA union shop agreement.

Gains By Local 29

Additional paid holidays, other gains up to five cents an hour won by FTA, Local 29 at Columbia Conserve Co. Contract now one of best in industry, with no seasonal exemption on overtime pay, two weeks paid vacations, night bonus, safety and health safeguards.

FTA 26 Wins Poll By 5 to 1 Vote

By Lock J. Parker

By a smashing 55 to 13 vote, workers at Hinde & Dauch Co. in Suffolk, Va., voted to choose FTA Local 26 as their collective bargaining agency.

AFL Local 822, which had been trying to raid Local 26 in recent weeks, backed off the ballot when they saw the workers' determination to have a real union to fight for them.

Local 26 President Leroy Harris and Business Agent Robbie Mae Riddick were among the leaders in the campaign to bring real unionism to the Hinde and Dauch workers.

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Proposed Unity Agreement OK'd by FTA Board

Based on the authority to promote unity of FTA with other unions voted at the FTA 7th national convention in 1949, the officers of FTA in recent weeks have conferred with officers of the Distributive Workers Union and the United Office and Professional Workers on this question.

The result of these conferences was the proposed agreement on merger of FTA, the DWU and the UOPWA, which is given in full below.

The proposed agreement was submitted to the meeting of the FTA International Executive Board, held in Philadelphia August 26, 27 and 28, 1950. After two days of thorough discussion, the FTA Executive Board voted unanimously, with no abstentions, to approve and adopt the proposed agreement.

The agreement will now be submitted to all FTA locals during the month of September, to be discussed and voted upon, and to the delegates to the special national convention of FTA, called for October 4 in New York, where the delegates will vote on it.

If the agreement on merger is approved by the delegates, the special FTA convention will adjourn to join with similar special conventions of the DWU and the UOPWA in order to form a single international union of the three.

DRAFT MEMORANDUM AND PROPOSED MERGER AGREEMENT BETWEEN DISTRIBUTIVE WORKERS UNION; FOOD, TOBACCO, AGRICULTURAL AND ALLIED WORKERS UNION OF AMERICA; AND THE UNITED OFFICE AND PROFESSIONAL WORKERS OF AMERICA.

In order to effect a concentration of membership strength and resources to increase wages, improve working conditions and defend and enhance the security of every member, to vigorously expand organization in our respective jurisdictions; to strengthen the ability of our respective membership to defeat employer attacks on their union and on their living conditions and liberties; to carry forward the policies and program of democratic and progressive unionism which our respective organizations have traditionally pursued; and to contribute towards the goal of real unity of working people for the purpose of achieving an abundant, secure and peaceful life; the Distributive Workers Union, the Food, Tobacco and Agricultural Workers Union, and the United Office and Professional Workers of America, agree upon the unification of these organizations, based on the principle set forth in this Memorandum and subject to ratification by the membership of each of these organizations through the appropriate procedures of each.

(1) The three organizations shall merge and create a single union with one leadership, one headquarters, one treasury, and in all respects shall act in a united fashion.

(2) The united union shall have as its objective the establishment of a similarly united organization in each major city in the land as soon as practicable and with the approval of the membership affected and through such organization to undertake appropriate organizing campaigns in all the fields under its jurisdiction.

(3) The united organization shall promptly act to mobilize the entire membership to meet the major collective bargaining and organizational problems of the members of the respective organizations.

(4) The aim of the merger shall be to unite the membership of the respective organizations. Therefore, the substance of this memorandum will be submitted after approval by the Executive Board of each International to the membership of the unions. Such submission shall take place during the month of September so that a convention of the united organization may be held on October 6th and 7th in the City of New York. Prior to such Convention, each International shall convene a separate Convention where the sentiments of the membership of each organization on the merger shall be recorded.

(5) The Convention of the United Union shall:

A—Adopt a Constitution:

- Placing the government of the organization in the membership acting through conventions, referenda and a General Executive Board and officers.

bility of all workers for

- Protection of the eligimembership and the exercise of all membership rights without discrimination as to sex, color, national origin, or religious or political belief.
- Financing the organization. This shall include provision for a standard per capita tax from local unions to the International Union of 75c per member per month.
- Democratic elections.
- Trials and charges.

B—Elect Officers and an Executive Board. The officers shall be the President, the Administrative Director, the Secretary-Treasurer, and eight Vice-Presidents; three from FTA, three from the DWU, two from the UOPWA. The Distributive Workers Union shall designate the President and three Vice-Presidents; the FTA shall designate the Administrative Director and three Vice-Presidents, and the UOPWA shall designate the Secretary-Treasurer and two Vice-Presidents.

Each Union shall designate eight members for the Executive Board in addition to the above mentioned officers. In proposing such board members and officers, due consideration shall be given to creating an overall leadership representative of the membership from the point of view of sections of the country, national and religious extraction, sex and industry.

C—Adopt an officers' report embodying the program of the united organization and setting forth its organizing and collective bargaining objectives.

(6) Upon the conclusion of the Convention, the Executive Board shall issue charters to the various locals of the respective Internationals. All locals and members shall become locals and members of the united organization with all rights and privileges therein.

(7) The present membership of the DWU shall comprise the Distributive Division and be alternatively known as the Distributive Workers Union.

The present membership of FTA shall comprise the Food, Tobacco and Agricultural Division, and be alternatively known as the Food, Tobacco and Agricultural Workers.

The present membership of UOPWA shall comprise the Office and Professional Division, alternatively known as the United Office and Professional Workers of America.

These Divisions will function through sub-committees of the Executive Board consisting of the members of the Executive Board and the officers originating in the respective organizations. Such sub-committees may meet from time to time with respect to specific problems and programs relating to the respective division, including the making of recommendations with reference to collective bargaining, organization and related matter.

(8) All of the present staff, including office staff of each of the organizations, shall be included in the staff of the united union. This shall not be interpreted to mean that in the event of future necessity to economize that the staff may not be cut. In connection with office personnel, accrued seniority and such other rights shall be retained.

(9) The International Headquarters of the Union shall be established at 13 Astor Place, New York City.

Strength, Power, Militancy in Proposed New Union

The proposed new international union, outlined in the merger agreement above, will have the strength of three fighting, progressive unions rolled into one.

Each union of the three has taken on some of the biggest, toughest and most bitterly anti-union employers in its jurisdiction.

And finally, each of the three unions—and their leaders and rank and filers—have been redbaited, slandered and persecuted by the top officialdom of the CIO, by the bosses' newspapers and radio, and by the bosses' friends and agents in Congress.

The Distributive Workers, (DWU), with its main strength in New York and its area and in Philadelphia, has organized the biggest department stores in New York and has brought union conditions to thousands of similar workers in warehouses and distributive points.

The United Office and Professional Workers (UOPWA), as its name indicates, has organized among previously neglected "white collar" workers who need and want organization just as much as production workers do. UOPWA has raised wages and improved living conditions for thousands of insurance workers, clerical workers, and others in similar occupations.

Leader of Distributive Workers, President Arthur Osman.

All Fight Discrimination

The three unions are front line fighters against discrimination. FTA's record in the South, among Negro workers, in the Southwest, among Mexican workers, and among almost every other national minority in the U.S., is one of the best in the nation.

UOPWA has carried on a similar struggle among its members, fighting for Negro rights in occupations where Negroes have been systematically excluded for generations.

DWU has taken a leading part in the fight for upgrading and for equal opportunity for Negro and other minority workers in its industries and areas. DWU, with its large and militant Local 65, is famous for taking part in every struggle for minority rights in New York city.

When the top brass in the CIO undertook its wrecking campaign against unions which had helped put and keep CIO on the progressive beam for 13 years, FTA, DWU and UOPWA were the first selected for targets.

Office workers leader James H. Durkin

But the membership of DWU wasn't having any. The workers stuck to Local 65 and the other progressive locals, formed their independent international, (DWU) and proceeded to win election after election and contract after contract. Now it is the strongest union in its field.

UOPWA and its leaders were vilified, abused and cursed by CIO President Murray, and CIO payrollers tried everything in the book to bust up the union and destroy the workers' hard won gains. But UOPWA survived this violent pro-employer offensive, even when CIO officials openly intervened on the company's side during negotiations, and has beaten off raids and disruption.

These qualities — strength, militancy, democracy and an unrelenting fight against discrimination are shared by the three unions it is now proposed to merge.

FTA Local 10 Signs 13 Leaf Tobacco Contracts

By Marie J. Winston

FTA Local 10 which is an amalgamated seasonal local, is located in eight towns in eastern North Carolina and Virginia; namely, Rocky Mount, Greenville, Kinston, Smithfield, Lumberton, Henderson, Oxford, North Carolina, and South Boston, Virginia.

The local has been successful in signing 13 contracts for this season, with wage increases, vacation pay, seniority, check-offs, and many other gains for better working conditions. The 13 contracts cover approximately 4,000 workers.

Negotiations were handled by a large committee of the rank and filers from each shop and International Vice President Robert Lathan.

The season begins about the middle of August and ends the first of November. Although the season is short, the outlook for Local 10's future is far better than at this time last year.

We, too, have petitioned for an election in three plants in our local. The following is our outlined program being stressed: To organize our plants and division 100%; fight for complete liberation of the Negro people; elimination of the 14 weeks exemption; strengthening of unemployment compensation; permanent FEPC.

Equal pay for equal work for women; organize a woman's auxiliary; improvement of wages; pension plan and health insurance; repeal of the Taft-Hartley law and state anti-labor laws, of the Mundt-Nixon bill; for peace and complete democracy.

MARIE J. WINSTON
FTA Organizer

PRICE GOUGING AND PROFITS

By Joseph Califf
Research Director

As every consumer knows, the cost of living is going up rapidly. Between June 15 and July 15, the first three weeks of the Korean War, the Consumers Price Index of the Bureau of Labor Statistics increased 1.4 percent, one of the sharpest rises since the end of price control. The index today is only 1 percent below the record high point of two years ago.

The Bureau's Wholesale Price Index went up 3.6 percent during the same month, or more than two and one-half times as fast as retail prices. By the end of August, wholesale prices were 6.4 percent above the pre-Korean level. This indicates that a further substantial rise in retail prices can be expected as these increases in wholesale prices are passed along to the consumer level.

Food prices have taken the biggest jump, especially meat, eggs, bread, coffee and sugar. Clothing will cost more in the coming months because of recent increases in the price of wool and cotton. Landlords are cashing in as more and more cities abolish rent control. In Richmond the government's rent index went up 10.3 percent following the removal of rent ceilings.

Who is to blame for these price increases? Some people try to put the responsibility on consumers themselves, blaming "scare buying" and "hoarding". While scare buying doubtless did cause some price increases, its total effect on prices is unimportant. The real cause is well expressed by the N. J. Department of Labor and Industry in its bulletin "New Jersey Retail Food Prices." The Department said:

"While more than an adequate supply of food articles is available for normal consumption and the costs of production and distribution have not increased, prices are soaring and a black market in sugar is developing because of hoarding, withholding, profiteering, and speculation in 'futures'."

There you have it: there is no shortage of goods, and costs are no higher. It is the profiteers and speculators who are pushing prices up to line their pockets at the expense of the American people.

Secretary of Agriculture Brannan recently denounced the enormous increase in commodity speculation and said:

"A speculator who purchased just before the Korean episode and deposited the minimum margin could have cashed in five weeks later with an approximate 450% profit on lard, 300% on soybeans, 150% on cotton or wool tops, and a comparatively modest 100% on the relatively sluggish wheat futures."

Brannan also minimized the effect of hoarding by consumers, pointing out:

"Housewives . . . buy sugar, for example, in five-pound lots and there is a limit to what can be stored in the home. On the other hand, speculators on the commodity exchanges can but it for future delivery in lots of 112,000 pounds. They do not have to worry about storage. The housewife pays cash and speculators need deposit as little as seven percent of the price."

Profiteering was on the increase even before the Korean War began. In the second quarter of this year, profits of American corporations were running at the rate of $32 billion before income taxes. This is 21 percent ahead of the same period a year ago and close to the all-time record of 1948.

The National City Bank of New York reports that 500 leading corporations showed a 27 percent increase in net profits in the first six months of 1950 compared to the same months of 1949. In the second three months of this period the increase compared to 1949 was 50 percent, showing a big step-up in the rate of profit as the year advances.

From these signs it is evident that profits will hit a new record in 1950.

Price gouging has reached such proportions that even the president of the National Association of Manufacturers has felt called upon to issue a word of caution to his fellow industrialists, lest they carry a good thing too far.

Under the headline "Big Buyers Denounce Price-Rise Swindle" the New York Times reports a protest by representatives of leading department stores against manufacturers who have been raising prices on orders already accepted.

Part of the blame for today's price inflation rests with the Truman Administration, which has opposed price controls except on a stand-by basis and has made no proposal to roll prices back. Also missing from the President's program is a tax on excess profits, which would be one of the most effective means of discouraging price increases.

FTA 19 Signs 8th Pact With 6 to 7c Increases

FTA Local 19 reports wage gains of six cents per hour for day workers and seven cents per hour for night workers in its latest contract signed with the Allied Feed Mills Company at its Memphis plant.

This brings to eight the number of contracts signed in 1950 by Local 19 as its contracts come open. New gains made in 1950 place FTA way out in front of other unions, particularly CIO. This can be seen by a comparison with the two and a half cent figure which is the government reported average increase for all labor in this area in 1950 contracts.

The Allied Feed Plant Committee, aided by the late Local 19 President John Mack Dyson, and Business Agent Ed McCrea consisted of Brothers Cleve [illegible] Albert Allen, Ben [illegible] and Jessie Walls.

Win 6c Raise Plus

Six cents straight across the board, plus an additional paid holiday and retroactive pay were won by FTA Local 194 at the College Inn Co., Chicago.

The contract calls for a union shop after a Labor Board election is won, and will run for two years.

Sasuly Frameup Is Squashed

A phony, illegal attempt to frame FTA Intl. Representative Elizabeth Sasuly for "contempt" of Congress has been squashed.

Sasuly refused to play a stoolpigeon role at the demand of the Congress unAmerican Activities Committee and was threatened with the contempt citation already dished out to more than 50 union members who likewise have refused to perform for the unAmericans' blacklist.

"The charges against Elizabeth were so phony and unconstitutional that even the reactionary House unAmerican committee had to retreat," FTA Administrative Director Henderson said in reporting to FTA locals on the victory.

CIO, AFL Raids Fail to Crack FTA

The business of raiding FTA locals, conducted over the past two years with great vigor by both CIO and AFL, is not a paying one, and any prudent investor would take his money out of it at once.

This is shown in figures presented by the FTA National Officers to the August meeting of the FTA International Executive Board, in which the following facts were listed:

Since the 7th FTA Convention, held in February, 1949, 47 FTA locals covering 45,338 workers have been raided by CIO and AFL. AFL raids involved 35,050 workers, CIO raids 29,823. (Note: several FTA locals, such as Local 22, Local 78 etc were raided by both CIO and AFL.)

Of the CIO raids, FTA defeated the faiders in locals involving 25,608 workers, while CIO gained in locals covering only 4,575—a ratio of only one victory for CIO in five tries. The AFL did no better, gaining only in raids involving 4,600 while it lost in raids involving 30,450.

The bulk of successful CIO raids were in small, isolated FTA locals in the midwest, usually where FTA was totally surrounded by rightwing CIO. The great CIO United Auto Workers, for example, was successful in picking up several FTA locals with memberships running from 45 to 75 to 100. CIO had not scored, by the time the study ended (Aug. 15) in any large FTA local. On the contrary, CIO had taken some pretty bad lickings in a number of such places—as in Local 22, 64 and others.

An interesting sidelight on CIO raids is the fact that they began a long time before FTA was expelled from CIO for the "crime" of formulating its own policies. This explodes the phony claim that the raids were carried out to "liberate" workers from FTA because it was guilty of opposition to CIO policies. The raiding began long before CIO leaders decided to oust FTA.

Whatever the CIO or AFL claims, their raiding ventures have not been successful, unless they count it a "success" when unions are disrupted, split and weakened in the face of the employers' offensive now going on against all unions.

JOHN MACK DYSON

John Mack Dyson, president of FTA Local 19 and a pioneer in years of struggle to raise wages and improve conditions in some of the most exploited industries of the U.S., died suddenly of a heart attack.

Brother Dyson was a leader of FTA since 1937, a member of the International Executive Board and a courageous fighter for the rights of Negro and all workers.

Brother Dyson's death is a severe blow to FTA, the second in recent months. Moranda Smith, also a pioneer FTA leader in the South, died recently at her union post in Winston-Salem, N. C.

Win $750,000 Raise For Quaker Workers

BULLETIN

Workers in four Quaker Oats plants are richer by $750,000 plus other substantial gains in a new contract signed just as FTA News went to press.

Signed by FTA Locals 110, 125 and 115, the new contract brings a 10 cent straight raise, seven cents of which is retroactive to May 29, plus a 2.5 to seven cent increase for some 300 workers. The contract has a wage reopener set within six months of termination date.

During two months of negotiations, CIO raiders tried every trick in the trade to prevent the increase, including urging a no vote on a strike resolution.

The workers effectively answered company propaganda about "war orders" by volunteering to work free if the company would also forego all war profits. Nothing more was heard on the subject after that.

80 Board Backs U.S., UN in Korea

Support for the United States and the United Nations was unanimously voted by the Executive Board of FTA Local 80 at its recent meeting. The statement said:

(Resolved) "That we support and endorse the United Nations stand on the Korean war.

"That we reaffirm our allegiance to the U.S. Government.

"That we call upon the United Nations, now in session, to strive to arrive at a peaceful solution of the Korean war so as to avoid a third world war."

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Ten cents across the board won by FTA Local 95 at Central Toms River, N.J. unit of Poultrymen's Service Corp.